



February 18, 2005

## SENATE BILL No. 539

DIGEST OF SB 539 (Updated February 15, 2005 2:04 pm - DI 75)

**Citations Affected:** IC 4-23; IC 8-1.

**Synopsis:** Accessible electronic information service. Requires the Talking Books and Braille division of the state library to work with a qualified entity to provide information in an electronic format to blind and disabled persons. Requires that \$5,000 be transferred monthly to the state general fund from the surcharge on residential and business telephone lines to provide services to the hearing impaired.

**Effective:** July 1, 2005.

**Young R Michael, Rogers, Merritt,  
Craycraft, Heinold**

January 20, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Homeland Security, Utilities, and Public Policy.  
February 17, 2005, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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SB 539—LS 7851/DI 14+



February 18, 2005

First Regular Session 114th General Assembly (2005)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2004 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## SENATE BILL No. 539

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state offices and administration and to make an appropriation.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 4-23-7.1-40.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA  
2 CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS  
3 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: **Sec. 40.5 (a) For purposes of this**  
4 **section, "accessible electronic information service" means a service**  
5 **that provides to an eligible individual news and other timely**  
6 **information, including newspapers, from a multistate service**  
7 **center, using high speed computers and telecommunications**  
8 **technology for Internet acquisition of content and rapid**  
9 **distribution in a form appropriate for use by an eligible individual.**  
10 **(b) For purposes of this section, "director" refers to the director**  
11 **of the Indiana talking books and braille division of the Indiana**  
12 **state library.**  
13 **(c) For purposes of this section, "eligible individual" means an**  
14 **individual who is blind or disabled and qualifies for services under**  
15 **36 CFR 701.10(b).**  
16 **(d) For purposes of this section, "fund" refers to the accessible**  
17 **electronic information service fund established by subsection (g).**

SB 539—LS 7851/DI 14+



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1       (e) For purposes of this section, "qualified entity" means an  
2       agency, instrumentality, or political subdivision of the state or a  
3       nonprofit organization that:

4       (1) using computer technology, produces audio or braille  
5       editions of daily news reports, including newspapers, for the  
6       purpose of providing eligible individuals with access to news;

7       (2) obtains electronic news text through direct transfer  
8       arrangements made with participating news organizations;  
9       and

10      (3) provides a means of program administration and reader  
11      registration on the Internet.

12      (f) The director shall enter into an agreement with a qualified  
13      entity to provide an accessible electronic information service for  
14      eligible individuals. This service shall be planned for continuation  
15      from year to year and make maximum use of federal and other  
16      funds available by:

17      (1) obtaining grants or in kind support from appropriate  
18      programs; and

19      (2) securing access to low cost interstate rates for  
20      telecommunications by reimbursement or otherwise.

21      SECTION 2. IC 8-1-2.8-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS  
22      FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 11. (a) Beginning on  
23      June 1, 1991, the commission shall require each LEC to impose a  
24      monthly surcharge in the amount of five cents (\$0.05) on each  
25      residential and business line (or line equivalent) of its customers to  
26      fund and recover costs for developing and providing dual party relay  
27      services that may include in appropriate circumstances in the sole  
28      discretion of the InTRAC providing telecommunications devices to  
29      hearing impaired and speech impaired persons.

30      (b) Before the last business day of each month, the InTRAC  
31      shall transfer five thousand dollars (\$5,000) collected under  
32      subsection (a) to the state library. The state library shall deposit  
33      money received under this subsection in the state general fund.

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SENATE MOTION

Madam President: I move that Senator Rogers be added as second author and Senators Merritt, Craycraft and Heinold be added as coauthors of Senate Bill 539.

YOUNG R MICHAEL

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Homeland Security, Utilities, and Public Policy, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 539, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 2, line 6, delete "Internet".

Page 2, line 9, delete "organizations" and inset "**organizations; and**".

Page 2, delete lines 10 through 11.

Page 2, delete lines 23 through 42.

Page 3, line 11, delete "one" and insert "**five**".

Page 3, line 11, delete "three hundred thirty-four".

Page 3, line 12, delete "(\$1,334)" and insert "**(\$5,000)**".

Page 3, line 12, after "library" insert ".".

Page 3, line 12, delete "for the" and insert "**The state library shall deposit money received under this subsection in the state general fund.**".

Page 3, delete lines 13 through 14.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 539 as introduced.)

WYSS, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0.

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